

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides compositions, solvent systems, and methods for solubilizing compounds which are otherwise difficult to solubilize. The invention involves the use of a structured fluid (e.g. a liquid crystalline phase, an L1 phase, an L2 phase, an L3 phase, an emulsion, or a microemulsion), comprising a polar solvent, a lipid or a surfactant, and an essential oil or a dissolution/solubilization agent.